the benefit that HINDALCO has got as a result of decontrol of aluminium?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: I will not be able to give the figure to the hon. Member because that will depend upon their producion costs etc.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Have they derived more benefit than the two public sector companies?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Presently, the price of INDALCO is Rs. 35,400/- and the price of BALCO is Rs. 35,450/- in respect of wire rods. Therefore, one cannot say anything price-wise. It will depend upon production.

श्री प्रमोद महाजन: सभापति जी, नल्को, बाल्को और हिंडाल्को, इन तीन कंपनियों में निर्माण की लागत सबसे कम खर्च में, सबसे कम लागत में एल्युमिनियम कौन बनाता है ? अगर हिंडाल्को बनाता है तो यह जो दो सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में है नाल्को और बाल्को, ये क्यों नहीं बना पाते हैं ? इसके क्या कारण हैं ? क्या सरकार इस दृष्टि से विचार करेगी कि इन दोनों में किस कारण से यह नहीं हो पा रहा है ?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Sir, it is very difficult to compare the cost of production and bring it in equal terms between a private sector company and a public sector corporation. And there are obvious limitations to a public sector corporation in terms of wage structure, benefits to employees, and various other factors. And, therefore, there may be a difference between the cost of production...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Import of soft drink manufacturing Machinery by Voltas

*122. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI DIPEN GHOSH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Voltas or its affiliate had applied in 1989 to the Joint Controller of Imports and Exports for endorsing the import of soft drink manufacturing machinery against R E P licences;

(b) if so, what is the value of the soft drink machinery to be imported;

(c) whether it is also a fact that more than one such application was made since the total value of imports exceeded rupees one crore; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir. M/s. Voltas Limited, Bombay, had made two applications in 1989, to the Joint Chief Controller of Imports & Exports, Bombay, for import of soft drink manufacturing machinery against REP Licenses.

(b) and (c) The values of machinery to be imported against the two applications were as follows:—

(i) Rs. 83,87,899/-

(ii) Rs. 59,50,358/-

(d) Against the surrender of equivalent values of REP licences, two Import Licences were issued in favour of M/s. Voltas Limited, Bombay, for Rs. 83,87,899/- and Rs. 59.50.358/

in October, 1989. This was done in accordance with the provisions of para 179 of the Import-Export Policy (1988—91).

Shares of Public Financial Institutions in Modi Rubber Ltd. Modipuram

*123. SHRI SURENDER SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various public financial institutions hold more then fifty per cent of shares in Modi Rubbers Ltd., Modipuram;

(b) whether malpractices such as black marketing, leakage of funds, tax evasions etc. committed by the management of the company have come to the notice of the financial institutions;

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what are the details thereof : and

(d) what action has been taken by the financial institutions to project their interests in the company?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) to (d) It has been reported by Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IPCI) that financial institutions namely, Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IPCI), Unit Trust of India (UTI), Life Insurance Corporation and the nationalised banks together hold nearly 51 per cent of the total share capital of Modi Rubber Limited (MRL). To protect their interest and to ensure proper financial discipline, the Company's Board has been reconstituted with an independent Chairman and suitable institutional representation on it. In addition, there is a Management Committee which includes institutional nominees and is presided over by an independent Chairman. Institutional nominee is also on the Audit Sub-Committee of the Board. An independent professional whole-time Finance Director has been appointed by MRL.

IFCI has reported that no specific case of black marketing, leakage of funds, etc. has come to their notice. It has further reported that the Company is contesting the income tax and excise liabilities raised and is taking up the matters with the concerned authorities. However, as indicated above, institutions have initiated suitable steps for maintenance of financial discipline in the Company, resulting in improvement in the financial performance.

Fraud cases in Nationalised Banks

*124. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage rise in bank fraud cases during 1989-90 as compared in those detected in 1988-89;

(b) what are the names of the nationalised banks in which there is an upward trend of such cases stating the estimated amount involved;

(c) what is the number of cases resulting in convictions/dismissals stating the rank of the officials involved during 1988-89 and 1989-90; and

(d) what measures have been taken by Government to plug the loopholes so as to effectively check such fraud cases in the nationalised banks?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The Reserve Bank of India has reported